

In the Specification

Replace the paragraph on page 5 beginning at line 18 with the following:

A first embodiment of the invention is discussed with reference to Fig. 1, a schematic diagram of the main components according to the invention. In an apparatus 10, a messaging client 110 (user) exchanges messages via a network 130, such as the Internet, with a messaging server 120. The messaging client 110 and messaging server 120 communicate using a protocol that is mutually understood between the two entities. The combination of the messaging client 110, messaging server 120, and the ~~protocol~~-network 130 is referred to as a messaging system 140.

Replace the paragraph on page 7 beginning at line 1 with the following:

It should further be appreciated that the backend server 160, e.g. the calendar server, also maintains the user's informational data, such as ~~maintaining the user's~~ online calendar data.

Replace the paragraph on page 8 beginning at line 1 with the following:

In another embodiment of the invention, the SMSC gateway 182 is able to exchange messages directly with the backend server_160, such as the calendar server, bypassing the central IM server 120 altogether.

Replace the paragraph on page 9 beginning at line 4 with the following:

It should be further appreciated that the bot agent may proactively send messages to the end user, for example, a reminder for an event. ~~However, it should be noted that while the~~ The bot agent is capable of proactively initiating communications to the end users (such as alerting and notification) for performing certain tasks, and thus the bot agent isn't not limited to being merely reactive. The bot agent is capable of accepting new data. For example, the bot agent has the capability of accepting new calendar entries.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 9 at line 24 with the following:

A sample conversation, including calendar integration, appears below in Table A, with end user input from screenname "~~End User~~" the dialog initiator to ScheduleBot the responder preceded with a '>' character, and corresponding output from ~~ScheduleBot~~ the responder indicated by a preceding '<' character.